

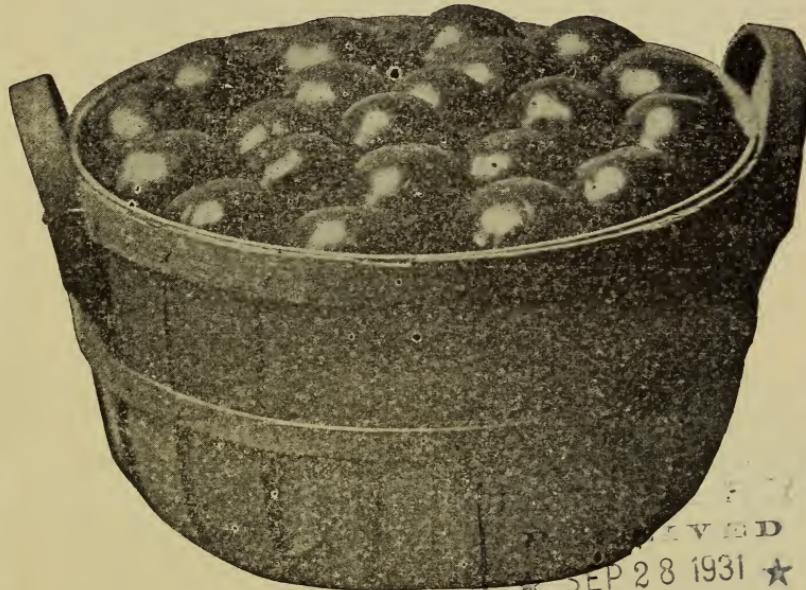
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MAPLE RIDGE FARM

CONSTABLE, N. Y.

Market Gardening and Choice Tomato Seed Growing.



Prize Bushel of Langdon's Northern Adirondack Earliana Tomato.
THIS IS THE EARLIEST, SMOOTHEST, HARDEST AND BEST
 EXTRA EARLY TOMATO EVER GROWN.

U. S. Department of Agriculture

SEP 28 1931 ★

We do not claim that they will all grow as large as these—21 fruits to cover the top of a $\frac{1}{8}$ bushel basket—but many of them will, under the same field conditions with which these were grown, smooth and hard, too. LANGDON'S NORTHERN ADIRONDACK EARLIANA TOMATO has become known the country over as the **BEST EXTRA EARLY** variety, and almost as an entirely **NEW VARIETY**, it is so distinctly different and better than the good old stand-by, Spark's Earliana.

LINE BREEDING has developed a fruit which **COLORS** nearly as well, is as **and nearly as **GLOBE SHAPED** as Jewel, is **EARLIER** and as **HARD** as Bonny Best.**

We are aware that the deterioration of the general run of commercial seed may have prejudiced you against this valuable early variety, and with good reason; but if extra earliness combined with smoothness and large size means anything to you, kindly look over our little circular and file it away for reference when it comes time to order your next lot of seed.

We are not seedsmen, being only market gardeners who offer for sale this seed from a strain of our early tomatoes on which we have worked for 10 years improving it for our own use.

We began 10 years ago by going over the field ahead of the first pickers selecting the first ripening fruit here and there, judging by earliness, large size, thick blocky shape, prolificness, smoothness and color.

This bushel was then cut and all fruit rejected which did not come up to an ideal inside and out—about half the bushel. This was our stock seed. We did this for several years until we learned of the theory of LINE BREEDING, which was then adopted, and the results have exceeded our expectations. In fact our NORTHERN ADIRON-DACK EARLIANA is almost a new variety in its superiority over the original strain; but we offer it as THE Earliana instead of giving it a new name as many seedsmen are doing with many kinds of seeds.

Replying to an inquirer Prof. Massey says in the Market Growers' Journal, April 15, 1914:—

"As a rule it seldom pays for a market gardener to save his own seed, especially in your climate (Va.) You can save good tomato seed for the main or late crop, but for the early crop seed grown farther north will be earlier than seed grown here. I save some melon seed usually, and some fine late tomatoes, but I want seed from the north for early tomatoes."

Do you realize how far north our tomato seed is grown? Look on your map north of Malone, four miles from the Canadian line, where the temperature drops to 25 below zero, and you will know where the seed of the EARLIEST, SMOOTHEST and HARDEST EARLIANA TOMATO is grown in its perfection.

Regarding this strain of seed we can refer you to hundreds of our pleased customers from Maine to California, although it has been on the market only 5 years—in which time its sale has increased 2,000 per cent.—and also to the seedsmen of whom we bought our package in 1904.

He says in his catalogue: "It is a week earlier than the old strain of this variety. This new strain was developed by one of our customers in the extreme northern part of New York State where it is necessary to have very early ripening varieties as the seasons are short. The fruit not only ripens extremely early, but it is also very solid and colors well. The tomatoes are so solid that they produce very little seed—less than half as much as the ordinary strain of this variety. We had quite a lot of plants of this variety growing side by side with several other strains from different sources, including our own seed, all with the same treatment in every way. The new strain ripened a week earlier than any other and produced a good picking of ripe fruit before any had ripened on the other plants. Where extreme earliness is desired we advise all gardeners to use the new strain. The plants are hardly as vigorous as our own strain of this variety but they produce big crops on rich land."

One of the Southern State Experiment Stations writes us as follows:—

"We experimented with your strain of Earliana Tomato the past season in competition with Earliana seed from three other sources, and yours exhibited such great superiority over everything else that we feel it is only just to you that you should know about our results. Your Earliana was grown along side of 80 different varieties of tomatoes and it beat everything in the plat in respect to earliness, uniformity and disease resistance. The yield of fancy fruits from your strain was 206 bushels per acre. These tomatoes were sold at an average price of \$3.00 per bushel, making the product worth over \$600 per acre. Only about 10 per cent. of the crop from your strain was unsalable, or classed as culs. We are in hearty accord with your efforts to improve the existing strains of seeds, and while we are not given to indiscriminate testimonial writing, we cannot refrain from publicly commending your efforts."

Another Experiment Station writes this October 28th, 1914:—

"We have found your strain to be ahead of the entire list of the other strains that we have tried, and we should like most of all to make that our standard with which to compare the others. If you have any more seed from the 1913 crop that you were selling last spring would you please let us know as soon as you can."

You might be interested to know the results that we got with your strain of the Earliana. Of eleven strains of the Earliana that we tried yours was the best. All the tomatoes were seeded in the green house the 26th of March, transplanted twice, and finally set into the field on the 20th of May. We picked tomatoes until the 20th of September, and at that date there were quite a few tomatoes on all the vines. We found that in the case of the Adirondack Earliana the yield up to August 20th was at the rate of 482 bushels or twelve tons to the acre. The total yield to Sept. 22nd, being 1,538 bushels, or 38.5 tons. The nearest strain to that yielded a total of 33 tons, while the least in the test gave us 25 tons to the acre.

We found that your strain was not quite as early with the very first ripe tomatoes. THE BULK OF THE CROP IS EARLIER, but the first ripe tomatoes were picked about a week or so later than five or six other strains."

Now, RIGHT HERE NOTICE THIS:—That the first ripe fruit of

our strain was not picked as early as from some other strains, and for this reason: In our selection of stock seed during so many years we have been CAREFUL NOT TO CHOOSE PLANTS having one or two of these immaturely ripe fruit with the rest of the hill coming on considerably later, and the result is that the bulk of the crop gets in EARLY ON HIGH PRICES. Prof. W. F. Massey, Associate Editor of the Market Growers Journal noticed this characteristic of our strain and wrote this for his department:—

"In my trials last summer the Earliana of the Langdon strain was well ahead of any other tomato tried, both in earliness, size and quality, and was as smooth as any other sort. It seems to me that its great value, aside from good size and shape, is its habit of throwing a LARGE EARLY CROP ALL AT ONCE. Any market gardener will see the advantage of getting the most of the crop while the price is good, and this habit seems more developed in this strain than in any I have tried."

Prof. Massey also wrote this to us: "I have tried all the various strains of Earliana on the market, and yours is the only one I have found that meets my idea of what a good early tomato should be. I had them here just like the picture and believe they are the BEST EARLY TOMATO YET DEVELOPED."

We need say no more than that, but here are a few bouquets thrown at us by the "Came Back" kind, some of our customers who wanted more of the same kind of seed because it paid them, even at our price.

"1-19-'14. I planted your NORTHERN ADIRONDACK EARLIANA for the past two years and found that it ripens from two to three weeks earlier than seed grown in this vicinity.—J. A., Mass."

"2-4-'14. We had your Grade 3 ADIRONDACK EARLIANA last year and are pleased to say that it is a winner; your strain is far superior to anything we have ever had.—A. C., N. Y."

"1-24-'14. Enclosed find \$3.00 for $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of your ADIRONDACK EARLIANA Grade 3. My tomatoes from your seed left nothing to be desired.—W. M., Ont."

"Please send me four ounces of your ADIRONDACK EARLIANA. Have tried your strain two years now and find it far ahead of anything I have ever tried in EARLINESS, PRODUCTIVENESS and QUALITY.—W. F., Ind."

"1-6-'14. Enclosed find \$5.00 for one ounce of your ADIRONDACK EARLIANA Grade 3. I have fine success with it.—J. D., Mo."

"1-12-'13. Order enclosed. People here say that I haven't got Earliana. They say they never saw them grow that big.—E. A., Ind."

"2-21-'14. Please send us as quickly as possible for \$5.00 enclosed one ounce of Grade 3 ADIRONDACK EARLIANA.—A. B., Conn."

THIS WAS THEIR THIRD ORDER LAST WINTER BESIDE THREE PREVIOUS YEARS.

"2-17-'14. Enclosed \$5.00 for which send me at once one ounce of your best ADIRONDACK EARLIANA. I found last season that the best is the cheapest.—N. G., Ind."

"2-17-'14. Your seed after SEVERAL YEARS' trial is what you claim for it.—F. B., Neb."

THE GERMINATION IS STRONG.

"2-10-'14. I think EVERY SEED germinated.—S. C., S. C." Another friend told us that he spaced the seed carefully and "Every cussed, lousy one grew a fine, strong plant." Also this: "2-15-'14. I found your ADIRONDACK EARLIANA the best for two years. Seed CAME UP MUCH BETTER THAN OTHERS.—F. W., Ky."

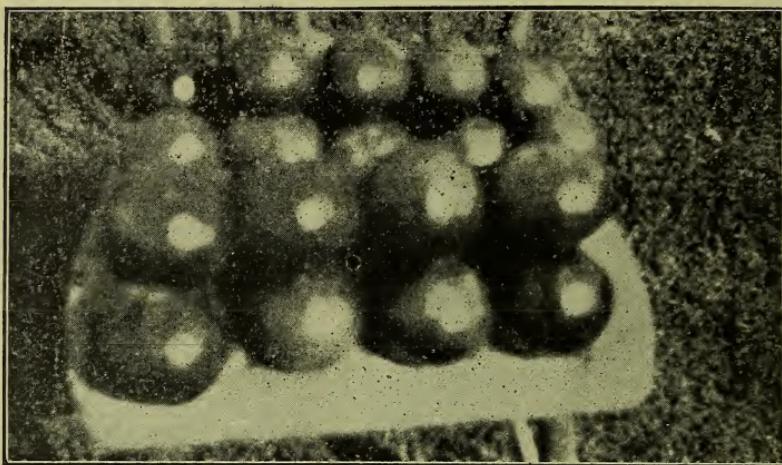
"2-20-'14. I have the earliest tomatoes in the country every season from your seed.—G. D., Mo."

"3-12-'14. Order enclosed. I planted your ADIRONDACK EARLIANA last year and they came in 28 days earlier than other tomatoes in this community, also stood blight better.—J. F., Va."

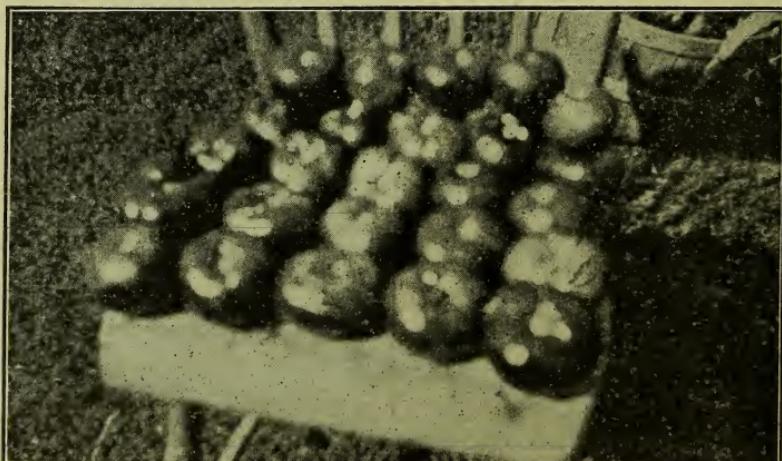
"8-21-'14. Regarding your \$5.00 per ounce seed would say I never saw an earlier or better early tomato. They are the EARLIEST and LARGEST, SMOOTH and SOLID, VERY MEATY and RICH in flavor, and the vines are MARVELS OF PRODUCTIVENESS. I would pay MANY TIMES YOUR PRICE rather than plant any other.—S. A., L. I."

"2-21-'14. Enclosed find \$3.00 for $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of your Grade 3 ADIRONDACK EARLIANA. I was well pleased with plants grown from your seed last year. With drought and late frosts some varieties yielded no marketable fruit, while your ADIRONDACK EARLIANA yielded heaviest and suffered less than any others I had, and owing to scarcity I received 16 and 18 cents a pound for a few weeks, and for choice EARLIANA'S OF YOUR STRAIN for slicing, not under 10 cents ALL THE YEAR. It made me wish I HAD NOTHING PLANTED BUT LANGDON'S EARLIANA.—L. S., Pa."

GET IN LINE AND PLANT THE BEST GOING OR YOU WILL WISH AS THAT CUSTOMER DID. All the above were entirely unsolicited and are only a few of the many kind words from our customers. Try part of your early tomatoes from this seed and let us please you in the same way.



The above is a photo of the fruit taken at one picking from one plant, and is a sample of what good plants of our strain may be expected to do when grown with right conditions of soil, moisture and weather. There were 25 ripe fruits. The largest weighed 5 pounds and 10 ounces, and the other 13 four pounds and 6 ounces, all as smooth as an apple beside 20 weighing 4 pounds not yet full grown.



This is the same 25 fruits showing the stem ends. Notice how smooth and thick they are.

A customer, of Leamington, Ont., writes that from ten acres he sold over \$6,000.00 worth grown from our selected EARLIANA seed, and the firm to which he shipped, many hundreds of miles away, tells him that his are the best tomatoes they receive. We might add many similar to this, but the best proof for our customers is a fair trial of the seed.

The cost of seed for one or ten acres is so insignificant compared with the value of the crop that we unhesitatingly advise one of the two best grades. Gardeners everywhere are learning that "Blood tells" in seeds, and that the best is the cheapest.

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Market Gardening and Choice Tomato Seed Growing.

WINTER OF 1913-1914.

GREETING TO OUR CUSTOMERS:

We have nothing to add to our last year's description of our NORTHERN ADIRONDACK EARLIANA TOMATO except that this year's LINE BREEDING continues to show additional improvement in the strain.

They are earlier, smoother, harder and more globe shaped than ever before. Ten pounds of fruit from which we save Grade No. 3 seed had only 15 5-16 ounces of pulp and 5-16 ounce of dry seed in it, thus making this strain a good shipper and the best early canner. There is no other variety which will show so little pulp and seed to a given number of pounds of selected fruit.

Many recommends have come to us of which the following is a sample:

Mr. Hilborn, of Leamington, Ont., writes that from ten acres he sold over \$6,000.00 worth grown from our selected EARLIANA seed, and the firm to which he shipped, many hundreds of miles away, tell's Mr. Hilborn that his are the best tomatoes they receive. We might add many similar to this, but the best proof for our customers is a fair trial of the seed. See prices on this sheet.

Having had repeated inquiries for northern grown seed of later varieties of tomatoes and also for sweet corn we have concluded to offer the following varieties which we have found best for our use.

BONNY BEST comes next to our EARLIANA in earliness for the first fruits, but does not ripen off the bulk of the crop nearly so early as the latter. The fruits are of fine color, very smooth and of a size best adapted to packing in small packages for retail. The foliage is of very strong, vigorous growth, covering the fruit from the sun. One of the best for an early crop, but not equal to our EARLIANA in flavor and sweetness.

CHALK'S EARLY JEWEL. This we consider the best medium early, About two weeks later than Earliana, and much used by canning factories. Our strain is one of the best.

JUNE PINK. Having had a demand for June Pink we offer a six year selection. We prefer a red tomato but think this the best of the pinks. This strain was sent us by a customer in the South who wanted seed grown as far north as possible. It is a remarkable keeper for an early variety, standing up well in the hot sun after being picked, after Earliana, Bonny Best and Jewel had gone down.

RED ROCK. Here is one which excels all others for later shipping or canning. We have grown Matchless for our late crop for several years, but had this new tomato brought to our notice, tried it and found it well named. It is harder, earlier, more prolific and larger than the Matchless, and will keep in perfect condition longer than any other tomato we ever saw on account of its thick cell walls and tough skin. It ripens from the outside in

instead of from the inside outward, and sound fruit picked even when well colored will keep two weeks or longer before getting too soft for best use. In fact one average large specimen picked perfectly green and laid on a shelf in the packing shed Sept. 12th, colored perfectly and is in splendid, hard condition to-day, Oct. 10th. The introducer of this wonderful variety says this of it regarding its canning qualities:

"The flesh of the RED ROCK tomato possesses the marked characteristic of containing a greater amount of pectin, or gelatinizing principle, than any other variety of tomato, which jelly-like conversion of its ripe fruit makes it of such exceeding value for preserving for winter use as to place it away above the Stone or any other sort."

Our northern grown EARLIANA, JEWEL and RED ROCK would make the best succession for a long season.

Our tomato seed is of our own growing from the average crop of the field with a large per cent. of the small, late fruit left unpicked, and is carefully screened leaving only the plumpest and best. Price, postpaid, as follows:

	½ oz.	1 oz.	2 oz.	4 oz.	8 oz.	1 lb.
BONNY BEST,	.50	.75	\$1.50	\$2.50	\$4.00	\$7.00
JEWEL,	.40	.60	\$1.20	\$2.00	\$3.50	\$6.00
JUNE PINK,	.30	.50	\$1.00	\$1.75	\$2.50	\$4.00
RED ROCK,	.50	.75	\$1.50	\$2.50	\$4.00	\$7.00

SWEET CORN.

POCAHONTAS, is the best extra early white corn. Fully as early as White Cob Cory, ears much larger and of better quality. Stalks grow about five feet high and many of them with two large ears of superb quality. We have grown many kinds and find this superior to all the early sorts.

BUTTERCUP. This new yellow sweet corn is the best of all excepting the Golden Bantam, as it has a larger ear and is just about as early.

If you have a critical trade by all means give this splendid corn a trial. The introducer says: "Compared with Golden Bantam the Buttercup has a larger ear, is of better quality and nearly if not quite as early.

GOLDEN BANTAM. This splendid corn needs no description where it has once been tried. The ears are of fair size on good soil, quality second to none and when picked at just the right stage has a kernel slightly more tender than Buttercup.

All our corn is from ears carefully dried and graded. Price per pint and quart postpaid; peck by express not prepaid, as follows:

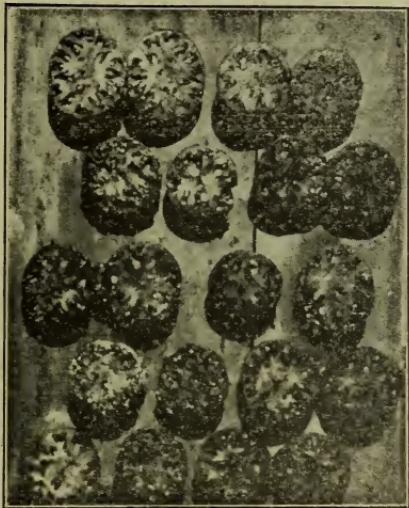
	Pint.	Quart.	Peck.
POCAHONTAS,	.25	.45	\$1.75
BUTTERCUP,	.25	.50	\$2.00
GOLDEN BANTAM,	.25		

Order early. Our stock is small and last winter we were sold out of the best tomato seed long before sowing time. Please do not send postage stamps—we cannot use so many. We are not seedsmen but truckers who offer the best of what does best with us away up north, and believe our seeds will do the same with you.

Yours for the best in the business,

Constable, N. Y., Oct. 10, 1913.

F. & H. P. LANGDON.



This shows the solidity and small seed cavities of the fruit we select from the LINE BREEDING plats for Grade No. 3. Ten pounds of this selected fruit had only 15 5-16 ounces of pulp and 5-16 of an ounce of dry seed in it, thus making this strain a good shipper and the best early canner. There is no other variety or strain of Earliana which will show so little pulp and seed to a given number of pounds of selected fruit.

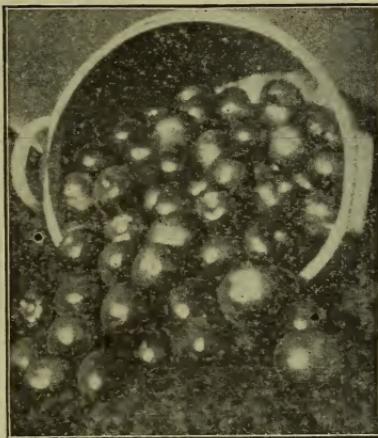
Price of Langdon's eight-year selection and Line Bred Northern Adirondack Tomato seed, post-paid:

Grade No. 1— $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. 25c.; $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. 40c.; 1 oz. 60c.; 2 oz. \$1.20; 4 oz. \$2.00; 8 oz. \$3.50; 1 lb. \$6.00.

Grade No. 2—Seed from Crown and Selected Fruit: $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. 75 cts.; 1 oz. \$1.25. Can be supplied only when in stock.

Grade No. 3—Seed from our Line Breeding Plots, Best Private Stock, just such as we sow, supply limited: $\frac{1}{4}$ oz. \$2.00; $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. \$3.00; 1 oz. \$5.00.

This grade is from Line Breeding Plots, carefully selected for size, shape and smoothness of fruit and appearance of plant, which is then cut and all fruit rejected that does not come up to the standard in solidity and small seed cavities. Can be supplied only when in stock; and we believe that seed of this grade cannot be bought elsewhere, for the cutting and sorting is not left to the judgment of hired help; it is done personally by the members of the firm themselves who give you the results of their years of experience in this line.



A basketful from our Line Breeding Plots which is cut for Grade No. 3. Part of the seed you buy in 1914 was grown from this identical basketful. Notice the thick, globular shape.

OTHER VARIETIES OF TOMATOES.

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Our many friends who ask for cultural directions for growing tomatoes we would refer to the Market Growers Journal, Louisville, Ky., \$1.00 a year, or "Tomato Culture" a splendid book by Prof. Tracy, for sale by the Journal, 50c. This will give you a far better idea of the crop than we could do in the small space of a letter.

NOTICE!

Owing to the recent death of the Senior member of the firm, our trucking and seed trade will hereafter be carried on under the name of H P. Langdon & Son.

Yours for the best in business,

H. P. LANGDON & SON,
Constable, N. Y., November, 1914.